

WOMEN IN MARITIME ASSOCIATION CARIBBEAN (WiMAC) REGIONAL CONFERENCE AND 6TH ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING



The Women in Maritime Association Caribbean (WiMAC) Regional Conference and 6th Annual General Meeting under the theme, *Navigating Horizons: Mobilizing Stronger Networks for Caribbean Women towards a sustainable maritime industry* was held in Jamaica from the 3rd – 5th October 2023.

Ms. Shenica Sebastian, Quality Management Representative, Human Resources and Administration Manager and Antigua and Barbuda National Liaison Officer for WiMAC, and Ms. Shenique Barry, Registration Assistant, both of the Department of Marine Services and Merchant Shipping (ADOMS), were in attendance along with other national representatives from across the Caribbean.

The conference brought together women leaders in the maritime industry and provided a forum for sharing experiences and best practices as well as fostering professional development and capacity building within the region.

WiMAC is one of the eight regional Women in Maritime Association (WiMAS) established under the auspices of the International Maritime Organization. The vision of WiMAC is to empower women to become beacons for the sustainable development of the Maritime Industry. The mission is to transform the Maritime Industry through the development and participation of women in the sector within the Caribbean.

Through planned work programs and outreach activities the Association will contribute significantly to achieving national strategic and sustainable development goals geared towards ensuring inclusive and equitable quality education, promoting lifelong learning

opportunities, achieving gender equality, and empowering all women and girls, as well as conservation and sustainable use of the oceans, seas, and marine resources.

Each Caribbean country has been mandated to establish a local chapter. Steps have been taken to progress this initiative in Antigua and Barbuda. There are currently 10 females within the maritime industry who have expressed an interest in the establishment of a local chapter which will be officially launched in 2024. Membership is open to females employed or engaged in activities in the maritime sector.



Ms. Shenique Barry and Ms. Shenica Sebastian (Left to Right) representing Antigua and Barbuda at WiMAC Regional Conference and Annual General Meeting



Ms. Shenique Barry, Ms. Shenica Sebastian, Mrs. Tamera Lowe-James and Ms. Nicole Alleyne (left to right), members of the soon to be launched Antigua and Barbuda's local WiMAC Chapter

For further information on the work of the Antigua and Barbuda WIMAC Chapter please contact Ms. Shenica Sebastian at ssebastian@abregistry.ag.